

UDIS file

5 May 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: All UDIS Members

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FROM: [REDACTED]
Chairman/UDIS

SUBJECT: Summary of UDIS Meeting 20 April 1982

The seventh meeting of the Unauthorized Disclosures Investigations Subcommittee (UDIS) was held on 20 April 1982 in Room 5D03 at 1030 hours. The meeting was scheduled to discuss the following items:

1. Report on the Attorney General's Group
2. Prioritizing Leaks
3. Security Dissemination Controls
4. Budget Proposals for FY 1984

I. Report on the Attorney General's Group

The Report of the Interdepartmental Group on Unauthorized Disclosures of Classified Information was signed by Attorney General William French Smith and forwarded to the President's National Security Advisor, William Clark, on 31 March 1982.

The report recommended the following:

1. The Administration should support new legislation to strengthen existing criminal statutes that prohibit the unauthorized disclosure of classified information.
2. All persons with authorized access to classified information should be required to sign secrecy agreements in a form enforceable in civil actions brought by the United States. For persons with access to the most sensitive kinds of classified information, these agreements should also include provisions for prepublication review.

3. Agencies should adopt appropriate policies to govern contacts between media representatives and government officials, so as to reduce the opportunity for negligent or deliberate disclosures of classified information.
4. Each agency that originates or stores classified information should adopt internal procedures to ensure that unauthorized disclosures of classified information are effectively investigated and appropriate sanctions imposed for violations.
5. The Department of Justice, in consultation with affected agencies, should continue to determine whether FBI investigation of an unauthorized disclosure is warranted. The FBI should be permitted to investigate unauthorized disclosure of classified information under circumstances where the likely result of a successful investigation will be imposition of administrative sanctions rather than criminal prosecution.
6. Existing agency regulations should be modified to permit the use of polygraph examinations for government employees under carefully defined circumstances.
7. All agencies should be encouraged to place greater emphasis on protective security programs. Authorities for the federal personnel security program should be revised and updated.

In addition to the report, a summary of damaging leaks which occurred during the past few years was prepared at the request of the Interagency Group Chairman, Richard Willard, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division. The following UDIS members organizations contributed to the report: CIA, DIA, NSA and OSD. The leaks summary is to be submitted to the DCI, along with implementing procedures for NSDD-19, and an analysis of the Interagency Group's report. As yet, no action has been taken on the report.

II. Prioritizing Leaks

NSA's proposal for prioritizing leaks was circulated to all UDIS members for review prior to the meeting. The discussion centered on whether a numerical weighting system would enhance the ability of the DOJ and/or the FBI to determine which leaks should be investigated and, where demands for investigations exceed available resources, in what order.

In view of the Interagency Group's proposed new approach to leaks investigations which emphasizes conducting investigations without predetermining whether a criminal prosecution is likely, it was suggested that a standardized system of weighting significant factors of any specific unauthorized disclosure might be useful. The standardized system would be employed by each agency or department when reporting a leak. One advantage of such a system might be that it could serve as a shorthand designation of the agency's interest in a specific leak.

It was also suggested that an FBI representative from the Washington Field Office be invited to attend a UDIS meeting to discuss the merits of a standardized prioritization scheme and its usefulness in investigation decisions.

The Chairman asked each UDIS member to be prepared to take a position on the prioritization scheme at the next meeting.

III. SECOM Coordinator

Discussion of the SECOM coordinator was added to the agenda. The general consensus was that UDIS wanted to pursue the concept of a coordinator who would serve as a resource for all IC elements in facilitating leaks investigations and in evaluating and maintaining a data base on unauthorized disclosures. A job description for the coordinator position will be prepared for discussion at the next meeting.

IV. Data Base

STAT [redacted] DIA, will prepare a short report for the next meeting summarizing the information used by UDIS member agencies in keeping internal logs of unauthorized disclosures. The report will define elements common to all logs and identify differences. This study will form a basis for recommending establishment of a community-wide data base to SECOM.

V. Budget Proposals for FY 1984

UDIS members were asked to identify projects or studies of benefit to the IC that might be funded for FY 1984. Suggestions include funding the coordinator position and studies of (1) use of a data base as a diagnostic tool to predict leaks; (2) document dissemination control systems; (3) damage caused by leaks; (4) the intelligence contracting system as it relates to leaks, and (5) effectiveness of IC efforts to sanitize classified documents pursuant to the FOIA. Suggestions will be ranked by priority and submitted to SECOM.

VI. Security Dissemination Controls

It was suggested that UDIS look into photocopy control as a security mechanism to deter leaks and/or to investigate leaks after they occur. The ensuing discussion focused on methods of controlling access to copies and including signatures to identify where a document was copied. One major concern expressed was the balance between security controls and the utility of easy access to photocopy machines. Manufacturers of such equipment will be invited to brief UDIS in the near future on photocopy security systems.

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